

ber of the Chamber of Representatives, Burgomaster of Charleroi has been dismissed. His successor is the former City Counsellor Jean Theugels, who had not been reelected. The new Burgomaster was arrested as suspect by the Belgian authorities in May 1940.

INBEL, 6.V.—The Kreiskommandant of the Louvain region has reminded the Burgomaster of Louvain that the boroughs are not only responsible for acts of sabotage committed within their territory but also for all inscriptions insulting the German army which are painted or chalked on walls. The inhabitants of Louvain have been requested to examine every day the front of their houses and to remove any inscriptions or signs showing hostility towards the Germans.

*Volk en Staat*, 28.III.—Jan Brans observes the effects of National Socialism in Belgium. He finds that the Belgian population, including the Flemings, oppose a strong resistance to the New Order. He threatens the opponents of the new policy, concluding: "The National-Socialist revolution must be achieved also in the political domain."

*Le Nouveau Journal*, 21.III.—Paul Werrie admits that everything that has been said or written about "atrocities committed by the British during the month of May 1940 belongs to the realm of fantasy. Most of the Belgians like the English people, even after their refusal to let food supplies arrive in Belgium; while the Germans are still considered to be enemies."

*Volk en Staat*, 27.III, states that the timber exchange in Belgium is a "real British propaganda nest."

*Le Soir*, 23.III.—Raymond de Becker agrees that it is not possible to establish the New Order in Belgium, first because the population is hostile to the New Order and lacks confidence in those who stand for it; secondly, while the war goes on, the situation does not permit the introduction of any drastic political changes in the economic structure of the country.

This being so, Raymond de Becker asks that until the German victory is achieved, the friends of the New Order devote themselves entirely to

the development of their ideas in the cultural domain, where the closest collaboration will be given to them.

The *Brüsseler Zeitung*, 27.III, reports two new ways of showing resistance.

1) It is now the fashion for Belgian women to carry books with showy book-marks on which mottos such as these are boldly printed:

"Attendre n'est pas renoncer. Se taire n'est pas approuver". (Waiting does not mean renunciation. Silence does not mean approval).

"Le jour viendra" (The day will come)

"Rira bien qui rira le dernier". (He who laughs last laughs longest).

In the street cars, these book-marks are shown to other commuters from whom sympathy is anticipated.

2) All the nickel coins disappear. The *Brüsseler Zeitung* attributes the fact to a rumor that the Germans use the nickel coins to make war material and shows great bitterness against the saboteurs of the Nazi régime.

*Volk en Staat*, 24.III.—A clerk of the Antwerp Town Hall found in his mail two small cards on which a poem was printed, relating a telephone conversation between Il Duce and Der Fuehrer, and making fun of their brotherly feelings. The poem ends up by calling Hitler a pig.

Instead of destroying the cards, the clerk gave it to a young teacher who made a stencil of it and put a copy on the desk of every employee in the office.

When the culprit was sentenced by the Court, the President remarked: "We know that much of this sort of thing goes on in Antwerp. In the future, such offenses will be punished with sentences up to 15 years imprisonment."

*Le Pays Réel*, 5.IV.—Victor Matthys confirms that the clandestine press has a large circulation in Belgium and that the population is ever ready to believe any pro-British propaganda aimed against the Germans. The following rumors are reported:

1) That a criminal attempt was perpetrated against the life of Degrelle;

2) That, during the last bombardment of Cologne, many Belgians who live near the frontier went out to watch the fires caused by